

## **REMARKS**

### **A. Related Patent And Applications**

The present application is a division of parent application serial number 851,517 filed May 8, 2001 now United States Patent 6,732,562 issued May 11, 2004.

### **B. Outstanding Action**

Claim 21 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Borodin (4,872,923) in view of Ohkawa et al. (5,149,681).

Claims 22-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Borodin (4,872,923) in view of Ohkawa et al. (5,149,681) and further in view of Seuntjens (6,610,930).

### **C. Status Of Claims**

Claims 21-24 were pending in the application prior to the instant Amendment.

Claims 21-24 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 25-28 have been added.

Claims 25-28 are now pending.

### **D. Citation of Prior Art**

Applicant is enclosing a citation of prior art (Form PTO-892) for consideration by the examiner.

The enclosed citation of prior art were made of record in the parent application serial number 851,517 filed May 8, 2001 now United States Patent 6,732,562.

E. Amendments To The Title

The Title has been amended in accordance with the enclosed marked up copy. The amended title more accurately reflects the content of this divisional application.

F. Pending Claims

Claims 21-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over various combinations of Borodin (4,872,923) in view of Ohkawa et al. (5,149,681) and further in view of Seuntjens (6,610,930).

Applicant has canceled claims 21-24 and has introduced new claims 25-28. The examiner will note that new claims 25-28 defined the process of the invention in a manner similar to the issued claims of the parent application serial number 851,517 filed May 8, 2001 now United States Patent 6,732,562.

More specifically, new claims 25-28 recite a method of drawing a wire having a first diameter to a fiber having a second diameter comprising the steps of feeding the wire into an entry orifice of a chamber at a first linear velocity. A pressurized fluid atmosphere is introduced into the chamber for enveloping the wire. A region of the wire is heated within an interior region of the chamber with a laser. The wire is drawn at second linear velocity from an exit orifice of the chamber for producing the fiber having a reduced second diameter. The pressurized fluid atmosphere is discharged from the chamber through the entry orifice and the exit orifices for providing an entry and an exit fluid bearing for the wire and the fiber. The fiber is cooled with the pressurized fluid atmosphere discharging from the exit orifice.

The prior art made of record but not relied upon has been reviewed and appears to be less pertinent to the claimed subject matter than the references cited by the Examiner.

It is respectfully submitted that new claims 25-28 are now in condition for allowance and reconsideration and allowance of the claims is therefore respectfully solicited.

G. Precautionary Request for an Extension of Time

In the event the present filing is not timely filed, applicant request an Extension of Time for an appropriate period of time. Please charge Deposit Account No. 06-2120 for the fees for any Extension of Time.


H. Additional Fees

Please charge Deposit Account No. 06-2120 for the fees for any additional claims, an Extension of Time, Citation of Prior Art, Petitions, Terminal Disclaimers or any other fee arising out of this correspondence.

Applicant verily believes that all claims are now in condition for allowance and favorable action is respectfully requested. The undersigned attorney of record cordially invites any telephonic communications from the examiner that may assist the examiner in the examination and to expedite the allowance and issuance of Letters Patent on the subject invention.

Respectfully submitted,

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Deposit Account

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Certificate of Facsimile Transmission

It is hereby certified that the foregoing correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Commissioner For Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on this 3rd day of May, 2005. It is requested that this correspondence be accorded the aforementioned filing date.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "P. H. H.", is written over a horizontal line.

In the Title

~~APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR DRAWING CONTINUOUS FIBER~~